

SHORT NOTICE QUESTION AND ANSWER

(but not taken up)

MURDER OF A HARIJAN YOUTH OF DUGGAVATHI
VILLAGE.

45. Sri D. NARAYANA DAS (Harapanahalli).—

Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state :—

(a) whether there was a murder of a Harijan youth of Duggavathi village in Harapanahalli Taluk :

(b) if so, whether any action has been taken by the Police to investigate the matter ;

(c) if so, the stage at which the investigation of the case is pending ;

(d) whether any action has been taken to entrust the work of investigation to the Special C.I.D. Branch ;

(e) whether the Police Officers working in Harapanahalli Taluk have been entrusted with the investigation work or whether the case has been entrusted to any officers of the C.I.D. Branch ?

Sri D. DEVARAJ URS (Chief Minister).—

(a) The dead body of an unidentified person was found on 8th February 1973.

(b) Yes. Investigation regarding the circumstances leading to the death is in progress.

(c) Investigation is in progress to establish the identity and antecedents of the deceased and also to establish cause of death.

(d) Yes.

(e) C.I.D. Officers have taken over investigation. The matter is under investigation.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTERS OF URGENT PUBLIC
IMPORTANCE.Re : STRIKE BY THE EMPLOYEES OF THE BOAT
BUILDING YARD—KARWAR.

Sri V. M. GHADI (Haliyal).—I call the attention of the Minister of State for Fisheries to the situation that has arisen due to the strike by the employees of the Boat Building Yard, Karwar.

Sri K. T. RATHOD (Minister of State for Fisheries).—

The boat building yard at Karwar which was under the control of the Department of Fisheries has been transferred to the Mysore State Fisheries Development Corporation with effect from 1st January 1971. The workers of the boat building yard are on indefinite strike from 18th January 1973. They have started relay hunger strike from 12th March 1973 in batches of two every day in front of the Deputy Commissioner's office at Karwar.

The demands of the workers are:—

1. To sanction a wage scale of Rs. 175-240.
2. To make the workers permanent.
3. To sanction sick leave.
4. To supply uniform.
5. Disbursement of wages for $6\frac{1}{2}$ days for the period of lock out in 1969.
6. Payment of bonus.
7. Payment of Dearness Allowance.

The General Secretary, Karwar Dock and Allied Workers Union, Karwar raised an industrial dispute on the above demands in July 1972. The Labour Officer and the Conciliation Officer, Hubli took up the matter for conciliation and had meetings with the representatives of the management and the workers. The management explained the reasons for not being able to meet all the demands of the workers. The Conciliation Officer found, it was not possible to bring about any settlement in the matter and submitted a report to the Government on 23rd August 1972 stating that the conciliation has failed. The Government sent a copy of this report to the management. A detailed report has been submitted by the management and the same was under examination by Government. According to Section 12(5) of the Industrial Dispute Act 1947 the Government have to be satisfied that there is a case for reference to the tribunal or if the Government is satisfied that there is no case for such reference, the Government have to record and communicate to the parties concerned the reasons therefor. While the matter was thus under the consideration of the Government, the workers served a notice dated 5th January 1973 intimating their decision to go on indefinite strike from 15th January 1973. They actually went on strike from 18th January 1973 against the advice given by the Assistant Labour Commissioner, Hubli. As the matter was under examination by the Government, the strike was considered unjustified or unlawful.

The workers who were on strike are 42 in number and consist of carpenters and mechanics. They are engaged on daily wages ranging from Rs. 4.50 to Rs. 6.50 depending upon their skill and experience. All the benefits prescribed under the Labour Laws of the State are allowed to them. The following benefits have been given to the workers after the Corporation took over the management :—

1. Minimum Bonus at 4 per cent for the financial year ended on 30th June 1971.
2. Minimum Bonus at 8.33 per cent for the financial year ended on 30th June 1972.
3. Paid holidays and leave with wages as per Rules.
4. Incentive increment of Rs. 0.25 paise per day in addition to the annual increment.
5. Provident Fund as per Employees' Provident Fund Rules.

Thus the management has already concerned some of the demands of the workers. The reasons for the management not being able to meet all the demands of the workers are that due to the failure of prawn fisheries during 1969-70, 1970-71 and 1971-72 there has been a set back in the supply of mechanised fishing boats as the financing institutions are not coming forward to finance the construction of new boats due to the very poor recovery of loans, as a consequence of which the Corporation is finding difficulty to secure orders for boats. Apart from this due to the "Go Slow" policy adopted by the workers the cost of construction of mechanised boats has increased to a great extent and any further increase in wages, dearness allowance, incentives, etc. will add to the cost of construction and the Corporation would not be in a position to compete for orders in the open market. In this connection it may be stated that about 20 private boat building yards have closed down for want of orders to construct boats.

The management of the Corporation is sanctioning an annual increment of 0.25 paise per day which works out to Rs. 7 per month. The wages paid to the carpenters and mechanics of the boat building yard at Karwar are reported to be higher than the schedule of rates for such workers in North Kanara District. According to the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, the main principles for fixation of wages are the capacity of the industry to pay considered on industry-cum-region basis after taking a fair cross section of the industry, the proper measure for gauging the capacity of the industry to pay being based on the elasticity of demand for the product. According to these principles the demand of the workers is not reasonable since the boat building industry is facing a crisis in the state.

Regarding the demand of the workers to make them permanent, since the boat building industry is temporary one, the workers cannot be made permanent. However these workers appointed on daily wages are continued without any break. The administrative staff in the boat building yard are deputed from the department of Fisheries and they are recruited under C & R Rules of the department against temporary posts created in this department.

There is no provision in the Factories Act and Rules to give sick leave for 16 days on half pay to the labourers. However until the E.S.I. benefits are extended to Karwar in Kanara District, the management may consider their demand for grant of sick leave. The management may also consider the supply of uniforms to the labourers. Government are also taking action to sanction the payment of wages for 6½ days when the yard was closed in 1969.

The Corporation has suffered loss in running the boat building yard. However the minimum bonus of 4 per cent has been paid to the workers for the period from 1st January 1971 to 30th June 1971 according to the minimum Bonus Act. The minimum bonus of 8.33 per cent has also been sanctioned by the Corporation for the period from 1st July 1971 to 30th June 1972 and 50 per cent of the bonus was paid in December 1972 as advance.

The remaining 50 per cent has also been disbursed in February 1973. The demand of the workers is for payment of bonus for the period prior to 1st January 1971 and the Conciliation Officer has informed that the workers are not entitled to the bonus by virtue of section 32 (iv) of the payment of Bonus Act.

The Chairman and Managing Director of the Corporation had further negotiations with the representatives of the workers on 24th April 1973 and the workers agreed to withdraw the strike and resumed work from 25th April 1973 on the management agreeing to an increase in wages of Rs. 0-50 P. per day in addition to the usual increment of Rs. 0-25 P. per day. The Government have also passed order in G.O. No. FCL 1313 (1) LLD 72 dated 25th April 1973 referring two points of the dispute *viz.*, demand for higher wages in the scale of Rs. 175-6-205-7-240 and Dearness Allowance with effect from 1st November 1971 for adjudication to the additional Industrial Tribunal at Bangalore. Government have also passed order in G.O. No. FCL 1313 (2) LLD 72 dated 25th April 1973 prohibiting the continuance of the strikes by the workers of the Boat Building Yard, Karwar.

ಶ್ರೀ ವಿ. ಎಂ. ಪಾಡಿ.—ನೀವು ಕೊಟ್ಟ ಸ್ಟೇಟ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪ್ರಕಾರ ಇದರ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಒಂದು ನಿರ್ಧಾರ ತೆಗೆದು ಕೊಳ್ಳುವುದಕ್ಕೆ ಸರ್ಕಾರಕ್ಕೆ ಎಷ್ಟು ದಿವಸ ಬೇಕಾಗುತ್ತದೆ: ಎರಡನೆಯದು ತಾವು ಅನೌಪಚಾರಿಕವಾಗಿ ಮತ್ತು ಅನೌಪಚಾರಿಕವಾಗಿ ಎಂದು ಹೇಳಿದ್ದೀರಿ, ಆದರೆ ಅವರು ನೋಟೀಸ್ ಕೊಟ್ಟು ಇದನ್ನು ಮಾಡಿದುದರಿಂದ ಆ ರೀತಿ ಹೇಗೆ ಆಗುತ್ತದೆ?

ಶ್ರೀ ಕೆ. ಟಿ. ರಾಥೋಡ್.—ಈ ವಿಷಯವನ್ನು ಇಂಡಸ್ಟ್ರಿಯಲ್ ಟ್ರಿಬ್ಯುನಲ್‌ಗೆ ರೆಫರ್ ಮಾಡಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಟ್ರಿಬ್ಯುನಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಎಷ್ಟು ಸಮಯವಾಗುತ್ತದೆ ಎಂದು ಹೇಳುವುದಕ್ಕಾಗುವುದಿಲ್ಲ. ಅಲ್ಲದೆ ಎಲ್ಲಾ ಡಿಮ್ಯಾಂಡುಗಳನ್ನು ಕಾರ್ಪೊರೇಷನ್ನಿನವರು ಒಪ್ಪಿಕೊಂಡಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಆದ್ದರಿಂದ ಡಿಲೇಯಾಗುವ ಪ್ರಶ್ನೆ ಬರುವುದಿಲ್ಲ.

ಶ್ರೀ ವಿ. ಎಂ. ಫಾಡಿ.—ಕಾರ್ಪೊರೇಷನ್ನಿನ ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಪರಿಸ್ಥಿತಿ ಚೆನ್ನಾಗಿಲ್ಲವೆಂದು ಹೇಳಿದ್ದೀರಿ. ಆದ್ದರಿಂದ ಸರ್ಕಾರವೇ ಇದನ್ನು ವಹಿಸಿಕೊಂಡು ಏಕೆ ನಡೆಸಬಾರದು ?

ಶ್ರೀ ಕೆ. ಟಿ. ರಾಥೋಡ್.—ಬೋರ್ಡ್ ಬಿಲ್ಡಿಂಗ್‌ಯಾರ್ಡ್ ಕೆಲಸವನ್ನು ಕಾರ್ಪೊರೇಷನ್ನಿಗೆ ಬಿಟ್ಟು ಕೊಟ್ಟಿದೆ. ಅವರು ಅದನ್ನು ನಡೆಸುತ್ತಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಅವರಿಗೆ ನಡೆಸುವುದಕ್ಕಾಗುವುದಿಲ್ಲ ಅಂದಾಗ ಆ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಸರ್ಕಾರದವರು ವೀಚಾರ ಮಾಡಬಹುದು.

(ii) **Re : DAMAGE TO CROPS ON ACCOUNT OF STRONG WIND AND RAINS IN HIRIYUR TALUK.**

Sri V. MASIYAPPA (Challakere).—I call the attention of the Minister for Revenue to the damage caused to the standing crops on account of strong wind and rains in Hiriya Taluk.

Sri N. HUTCHMASTY GOWDA (Minister for Revenue).—Sir, I make the following statement.

On account of strong, wind, rains and falling of hail-stones, Standing paddy crops and garden crops such as arecanut trees, coconut trees were damaged at Ikkanur, Kudalagura, Kariyala and Thimmalapura villages on 15th April 1973. Damages were also caused in Korihalli village but they are negligible.

The damages to crops and value of loss is estimated as follows :—

			Rs.
1. Arecanut	..	..	4,440.00
2. Coconut	..	..	1,410.00
3. Banana	..	..	240.00
4. Sugarcane	..	..	3,700.00
5. Paddy	..	..	31,520.00
6. Mango	..	..	360.00
7. Halasu	..	..	425.00
Total	..	..	42,095.00

About 19 huts in Lambani Colony and Bovi Colony have been completely damaged. The loss is estimated at Rs. 50 per hut. The Deputy Commissioner, Chitradurga District has sanctioned Rs. 50 each as cash relief to 19 persons whose huts have been damaged in Lambani Colony and Bovi Colony in Ikkanur, Kudalagura, Kariyala and Thimmalapur villages.

ಶ್ರೀ ವಿ. ಮಸಿಯಪ್ಪ.—ಅಲ್ಲಿ ಭತ್ತದ ಮತ್ತು ಅಡಿಕೆ ಬೆಳೆಗೆ ವಿಪರೀತವಾದ ನಷ್ಟವಾಗಿದೆ. ಅದರ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ನೋಂದಿರತಕ್ಕಂತಹ ರೈತರಿಗೆ ಏನಾದರೂ ಪರಿಹಾರ ಕೊಡತಕ್ಕಂತಹ ಏರ್ಪಾಡು ಮಾಡಬೇಕೆಂದು ಸಲಹೆ ಮಾಡುತ್ತೇನೆ.